

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBJECT Reorganization of the Askania Plants
in Berlin-Teltow and Friedenau

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1. The Askania plant in Berlin-Teltow became the property of the Province of Brandenburg on 20 January 1948 over the protests of its shop stewards and other employees. The plant will receive a new name and specialize in precision mechanics. In addition to heat-regulating plants, Askania will build compasses, oceanic equipment, low-level gauges, and optical multiple recorders for aircraft.

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2. The management of the Askania plant in Berlin-Friedenau has no objection to the severance of relations with the Teltow plant. [redacted] that the withdrawal of technicians of the Friedenau plant now working at the Askania-Teltow might impede a further development of the latter.

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3. [redacted] Director Guido Wunsch is proposing that some parts of the Friedenau plant be transferred to Teltow despite serious friction existing between Dr. Müller, the technical chief of the Teltow plant, and the management of Askania-Friedenau. It is feared that orders for the Russian Zone to the Friedenau plant will drop to such a low level within six months that the existence of the Regler group will be threatened.

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4. [redacted] it seems possible that the Teltow plant, which is now working on Red Army and APO orders, might be appointed by the SMA as its sole supplier in the Russian Zone. In this event, the Friedenau plant will be eliminated, while Askania-Teltow would benefit from its established foreign contacts. Merchandise exported by the plant would be paid in foreign currency, while the firm would receive payments in marks.

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5. Negotiations are now under way (presumably by the Friedenau plant) with Poland concerning the enlargement and reconstruction of power plants. The orders in question would total over RM 2,000,000. Negotiations are also being carried on with [redacted]

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